Macrame for beginners

If you're just starting macrame, this should be your first book. ▪12 Projects ▪Full-color Photos

By Ann Kehrer and Milt Davis

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About the Authors

Ann Kehrer and Milt Davis together have taught macrame to nearly 800 students since they began classes in late 1975. This experience in teaching those who start off knowing absolutely nothing about the macrame art has enabled them to put together an excellent book for you who are just beginning; they have encountered the beginner's problems over and over and anticipate your questions.

After 14 years of sales/management in the pharmaceutical industry, Milt decided to open his own business, in the area of his hobby interests. Thus, Baubles 'n Beads Unlimited came into being—an exciting shop in Belleville, Illinois which specializes in macrame supplies, macrame classes and jewelry beads and findings. Ann also works at the shop, and both she and Milt are constantly designing new macrame projects as well as supplying their customer's needs. (Ann's other art interests are brass jewelry designing and cake decorating.)

Since they are involved in the retailing side of macrame as well as design, Ann and Milt keep daily tabs on what the public likes in this craft. They have used this awareness in designing the projects for this book which, though directed to beginners, are lovely enough to interest the experienced craftsman, as well.

The authors would like to thank their friends and family for patience and encouragement – especially the following for help and advice: Mary Dumond, Vanecse Shaw, and Leonard Wolf.

Selecting Your Materials

In some macrame pattern books, specifications for materials in a given pattern are vague at best. Therefore, one of our objectives is to make materials selection as easy as possible. In addition, we feel you should know how the thickness of variuos materials is determined. Then, if you wish to design your own pattern, selecting materials will be a simple task.

Natural jute—the most commonly used macrame material—is a naturally grown fiber. It is available in its natural beige color or dyed in various colors. It is also available treated for outdoor use and, unless so treated, should only be used indoors. Otherwise, due to sun and moisture exposure, it will eventually rot—possibly breaking and causing your plant and hanger to plummet to the ground. Colors of jute are somewhat limited to the nature of the material. It is possible to bleach or dye your own jute. However, unless you need an extremely large quantity, what cost can be saved is probably not worth the mess and trouble. If you do choose to dye or bleach jute, do it before you begin your project.

How does one determine what thickness to buy for a given project? In this book, most patterns give you a choice of materials that are of an equivalent thickness. Many people have a tendency to use material that is too thin, either because they get more yards per ball or because it is cheaper. This is false economy. Usually, the heavier the material is, the better looking the finished plant hanger or wall hanging. Jute is measured in two ways. Plies indicate the number of cords twisted together. However, these plies can also be of different thicknesses. The thickness is determined by a number. For example, a jute labeled 4/72 or #72/4 Ply means it has 4 plies and each ply is made up of 72 fibers. You might also find a 4/28, 4/48 or 4/120 jute in your local craft shop—all 4-ply jute. Each of these are a different thickness or weight; a 4/120 is thicker than a 4/28. Jute is also sometimes measured in millimeters of thickness.

Another popular type of macrame material is soft cotton, cotton seine or cotton cable cord. The thickness of these is determined by the number of threads used to make the cord. For example, you may find #18, #24, #36, #48, #72 and #84 cotton cords. The number indicates how many threads are twisted together; therefore, the higher the number, the thicker the material.

Growing in popularity are the beautiful new synthetic cords. Some of these are measured in plies, others in millimeters of thickness, but often you must select these on appearance, seeking the equivalent thickness to natural jute or other materals which are alternatives, or by comparison to materials with which you are familiar.

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For macrame projects, rug yarn and knitting yarn are not recommended because they will definitely stretch.

In the patterns in this book, the beads and size of beads specified are only recommendations. As long as the holes are large enough, you may choose according to your taste or to availability.

Most of the materials in these patterns are readily available in you local craft shop. However, if you encounter problems with the patterns or availability of materals, the authors may be contacted in writing through the publisher or at the following address:

℅ Baubles 'n Beads Unlimited
3721 W. Main Street
Belleville, Illinois

OTHER MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED

The main ingredient of macrame is, of course, cord. Listed below are a few other materals which will be helpful in doing macrame projects.

Knotting Board: Most shops where macrame supplies are found will have macrame boards. Ones that are squared off in inches are the most helpful. Your work can be pinned to the board so that you can keep your knotting straight, consistent, and pulled tightly.
T-pins: These are pins which are used to attach work to knotting board.
Scissors: for cutting cord.
Yardstick: for measuring cord.

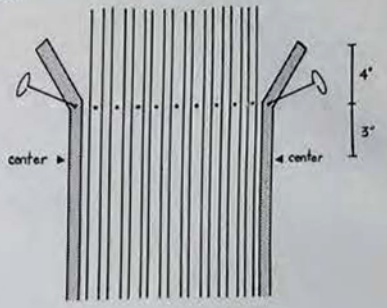
Terms

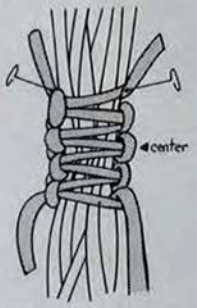
Working Cords: All cords being used in the design—both those with which knots are tied and those around which knots are tied.
Knotting Cords: Cords *with* which knots are tied; sometimes called "tying cords".
Filler Cords: Cords *around* which knots are tied; also sometimes called "holding cords".
Knot Bearer: Cord onto which Half Hitches and Double Half Hitches are tied. Other terms for this cord are "holding cord", "anchor cord", "lead cord."
Sinnet: A strip of the same type knot, each below the other, tied with the same working cords.
Row: A row of knots, side by side, tied with different working cords.

Techniques

SQUARE KNOT LOOP (FOR PLANT HANGERS)

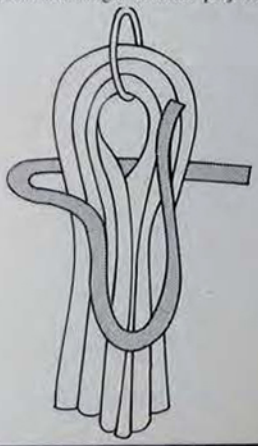
Find center of cords. Lay cords flat on knotting board. Pin all cords 3 inches from center, as flat and as close to each other as possible. Cut 2 extra cords approximately 54 inches long. Leaving a 4" tail, pin one cord on each side with short 4" tails away from you. Using original cords as filler cords and the 2 new cords as knotting cords, tie a 6" sinnet of Square Knots (see Knot Guide). Square Knots must be tied close together, causing filler cords to group together. Keep cords straight as you tie the Square Knots. NOTE: You want the Square Knots fairly tight so loop will not "bulge" open when put over ring. You will start your wrapping cord at the *bottom* of this folded Square Knot sinnet.





WRAPPING (GATHERING KNOT)

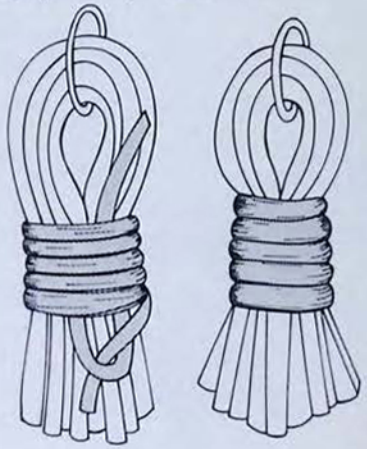
The Wrapping (or Gathering Knot) is usually used at the top of the plant hanger to hold cords together and at the bottom to finish the hanger or other projects or to make



First Macrame Project

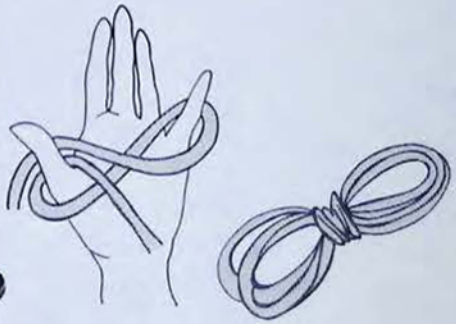
A Sampler for beginners. In barely one hour, even the macrame beginner will learn five basic knots in this project.

ssels. Fold all cords in half over the ring. Use a 1-yd. piece of cord for the wrap. Leave a 3" tail at the top by the ring. With long end of cord, make about a 3" loop hanging down from the ring. Bring the long end back up about 1 inch from ring and begin wrapping snugly around *all* cords *except* the short tail. Do not cover the end of the loop, but wrap to desired length (usually about 2 inches) and put long tail down through the loop. Pull the short tail at the top of the ring until the cord is about halfway through the wrap. Use thumb to test. Trim any cords left at the bottom and top. NOTE: Wrap should be as tight as you can make it and still be able to pull the loop through the wrap.



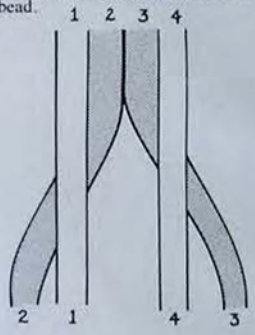
BUTTERFLYING CORDS

This technique is used to shorten long cords, for greater working ease. Using thumb and small finger wrap cord in a figure 8 until you have about 25 inches left with which to work. Put a rubber band around the bundle and pull cord as you need it.



REVERSING CORDS

Place knotting cords *over* filler cords. Bring filler cords under and to the outsides. The old knotting cords are now filler cords and vice versa. NOTE: This technique is used mainly to save cordage. It is camouflaged if done right before adding a bead.

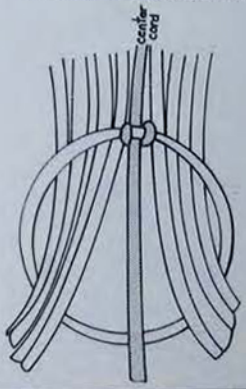


WRAPPING A RING

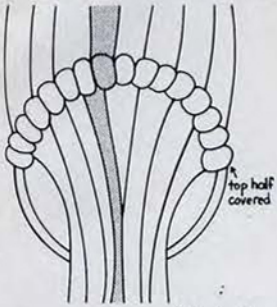
Wrapping a Ring in a Plant Hanger: Put all cords down through the ring. (The ring is horizontal, parallel to floor.) Take first cord and tie a Double Half Hitch (see Knot Guide) onto the ring at the 3 o'clock point. Take a second cord on opposite side of ring and Double Half Hitch to the ring at the 9 o'clock point. Stop and make sure the ring is level. Take a third cord and Double Half Hitch to the ring at the 6 o'clock point. Double Half Hitch fourth cord at the 12 o'clock point. Check again to make sure the ring is level. Divide remaining cords evenly among the sections and Double Half Hitch each cord onto ring. NOTE: Sometimes cord does not fully cover the ring. Here are three solutions:

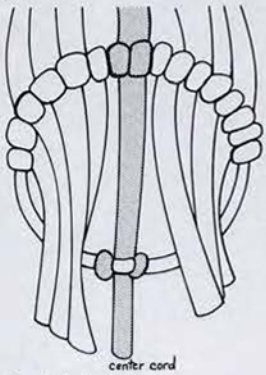
1. Take out the ring and replace it with a smaller ring.
2. Tie a second Double Half Hitch with each or some of the cords (enough to cover ring.)
3. Cut an extra piece of cord. Work around the back of each knot and around the ring. Glue down.

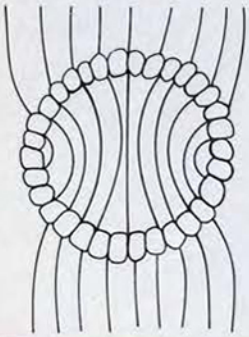
Wrapping a Ring in a Wall Hanging: The ring will be vertical in finished project—perpendicular to floor. Straighten all cords. Lay ring on top of cords. Find the



center cord and Double Half Hitch (see Knot Guide) to top center of the ring. Working from the center in both directions, Double Half Hitch all cords to top half of the ring. When this is finished, cords should cover exactly one-half the ring. Reposition cords behind the ring. Next find center cord at the bottom of the ring and Double Half Hitch it to the ring. Again, working from the center in both directions, Double Half Hitch each cord in turn. When finished, ring should be completely covered. NOTE: Keep cords straight and Double Half Hitch each one in turn.

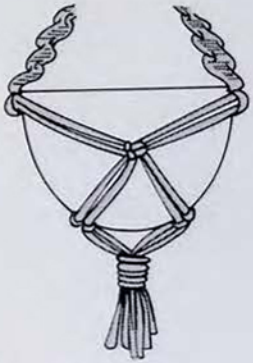






CRADLE (FOR PLANT HANGERS)

Measure distance around the pot. Divide distance by number of sinnets (usually 4) and divide in half. (Example: If pot has a 24" circumference, divide by 4=6 inches. Then divide this number in half = 3 inches.) Drop down this amount from 2 adjacent sinnets and tie a Square Knot (see Knot Guide), using 2 cords from each sinnet. Tie one Square Knot with each of the other adjacent sinnets. Drop down and tie a second row of alternating Square Knots. The deeper the pot, the more distance needed between first and second row of Square Knots. Put pot in cradle and check. While pot is in the cradle, check the distance needed between the last square Knot and where the bottom wrap should begin (usually about 2 or 3 inches). NOTE: A third row of alternating Square Knots can be added if depth is needed.



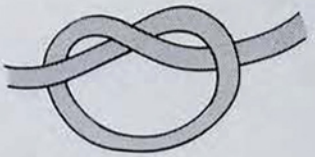
SPLICING CORD

If cord becomes short, cut an extra piece of material and unravel ends of both cords. Put white craft glue on both ends. Weave and twist ends together. Hold for a moment. Let dry. Continue with design. NOTE: If splicing should be in a conspicuous place in design, merely cut off the short cord to a place in the design where the splice will be hidden.

Knot Guide

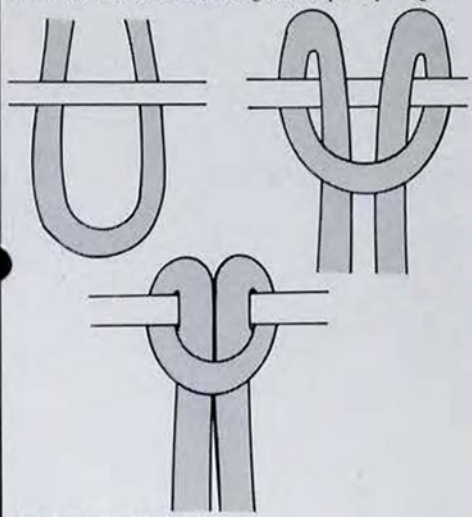
OVERHAND KNOT

Make a loop with cord and put one end through loop. Pull tight.



LARK'S HEAD

Fold cord in half. Put loop end behind mounting cord from above. Put ends (tail) through the loop and pull tight.



HALF SQUARE KNOT

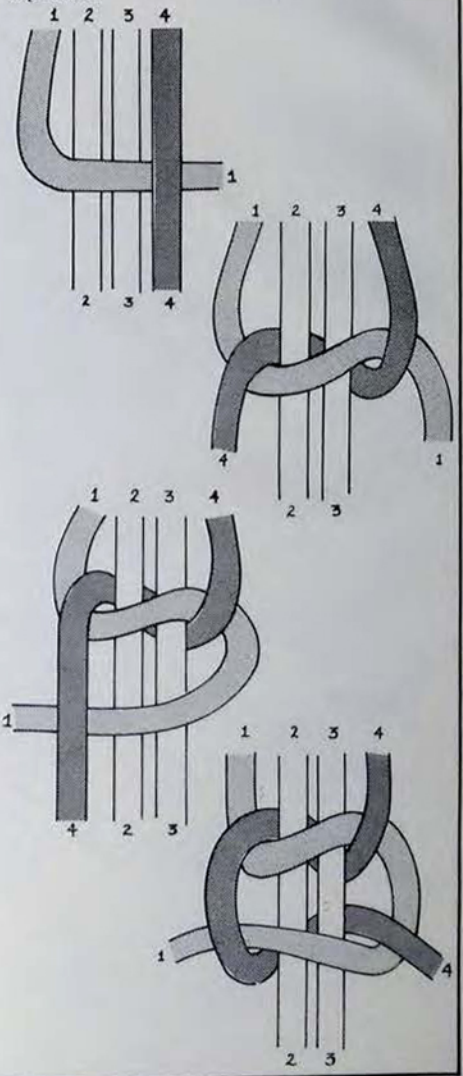
Using a group of 4 cords, put left-hand knotting cord (#1) over the 2 filler cords (#2 and #3) in the shape of a 4. Put right-hand knotting cord (#4) over the top of leg of left-hand knotting cord, then under filler cords and up through the loop made by left-hand knotting cord (#1). This makes one Half Square Knot. For a Half Square Knot sinnet, repeat this step five times. Sinnet will begin to twist. Turn sinnet over in direction of twist. Begin tying five more Half Square Knots, starting with the left-hand knotting cord and repeating directions. NOTE: These knots should be tied close together for sinnet to twist. A "right-hand" Half Square Knot may be made by putting the *right* knotting cord *over* fillers and the *under* fillers when tying the knot, and the sinnet will twist in the opposite direction.

SQUARE KNOT (LEFT-HAND)

Step 1: Using a group of 4 cords, put left-hand knotting cord(#1)over the 2 filler cords(#2 and #) in shape of a 4. Put right-hand knotting cord (#4)over the top of leg of left-hand knotting cord, then under filler cords and up through the loop made by left-hand knotting cord (#1).

Step 2: Put right-hand knotting cord (#4) over top of filler cords (#2 and #3) in shape of a backward 4. Put left-hand knotting cord (#1) over leg of backward 4 and *under* filler cords (#2 and #3) and up through the loop made by right-hand knotting cord (#4).This is one Square Knot.

NOTE: The "right-hand" Square Knot may be made by starting with the right-hand knotting cord,reversing the two steps above.

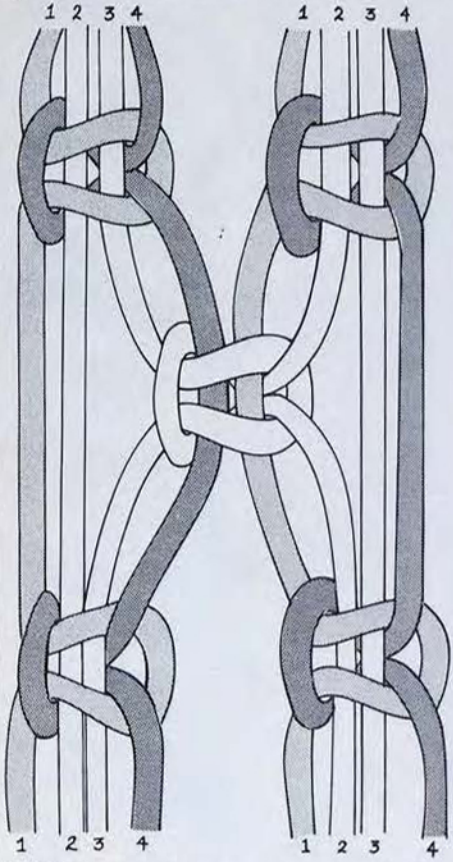


Knot Guide

ALTERNATING SQUARE KNOT

When making alternating Square Knots, you are simply taking the 2 closest cords from each of 2 Square Knots on the row above to form a new group with which to tie a Square Knot; the latter will fall below and *between* the 2 knots above.

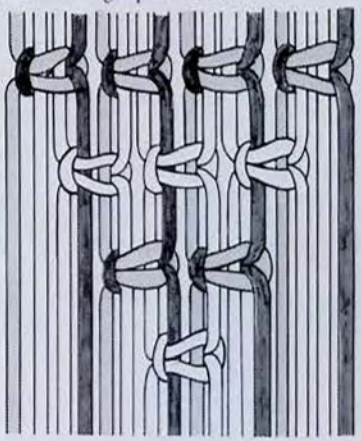
Using 8 cords, divide into 2 groups of 4 cords each. Tie 2 Square Knots in row one. Drop off the first 2 cords from first Square Knot and last 2 cords from second Suare Knot. Using the 4 middle cords, tie one square Knot in row two. Put all cords back into "starting position". Divide into 2 groups of 4 and tie 2 Square Knots in row three. Keep repeating these steps as long as pattern specifies.



DIMINISHING ALTERNATING SQUARE KNOTS

Divide cords into groups of 4. Tie one Square Knot with each group. (Diagram shows a row of 4 Square Knots.) Drop off 2 cords from the first Square Knot. Take the remaining 2 cords from first Square Knot and the adjacent 2 cords from second Square Knot and tie a new Square Knot. Divide remaining cords into groups of 4 cords and tie one Square Knot with each group. (Diagram shows a second row of 3 Square Knots --these alternate with the knots on the first row.) There will be 2 cords left on the right side at end of row two.

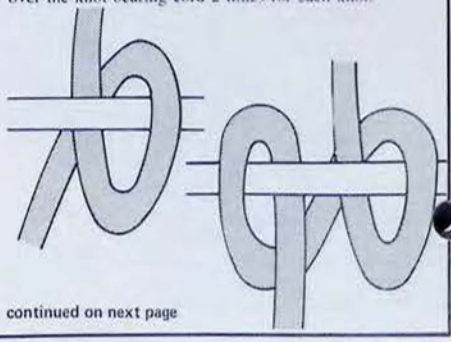
Next, drop off 2 more cords on left side (you have now dropped a total of 4 cords on left side). Divide cords into groups of 4 and tie one Square Knot with each group, leaving 4 cords off on right side, also. Next row, drop off 2 more cords on the left (a total of 6 have now been dropped) and tie one Square Knot with the next 4 cords. You should have 6 cords left on the right side, also. This completes a pattern of 4, 3, 2, and 1 diminishing Square Knots.



DOUBLE HALF HITCH

All Double Half Hitches are worked around (onto) a knot bearing cord.

Working right to left: Pin the knot bearing cord straight tight to the right (horizontally or diagonally, as pattern specifies) over the other cords. Using the first working cord, bring end up over top of knot bearing cord, then down behind knot bearer to the left of itself. Make a loop below knot bearer as you bring the same cord end up again, over top, and down behind knot bearing cord. Pull end through loop (end will come out on *top* of itself). Pull tight. This is *one* knot. Use each cord in turn and repeat. Each cord goes over the knot bearing cord 2 times for each knot.



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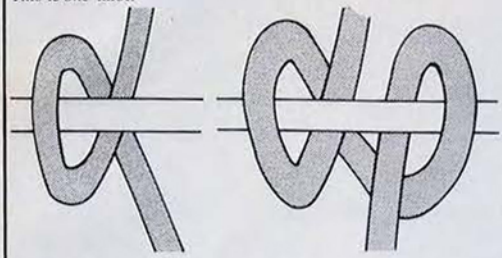
Baubles 'N Beads Christmas Tree

Mistletoe Ring

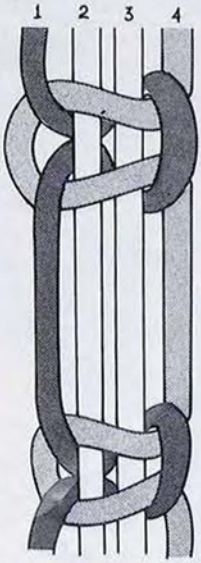
Knot Guide

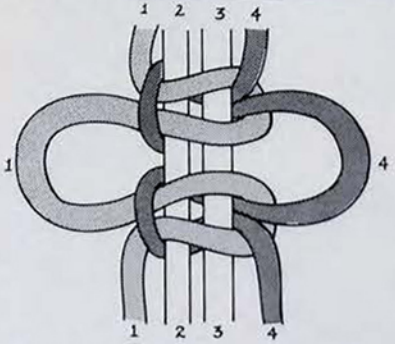
Working left to right: Pin knot bearing cord straight and tight to the left over the other cords. Using first working cord on the right, bring end up over top of knot bearing cord and down behind knot bearer to the right of itself. Make a loop below knot bearer as you bring the same cord end up over top, then down behind knot bearing cord. Pull end through loop (end will come out on *top* of itself). Pull tight. This is *one* knot.



SQUARE KNOT PICOT

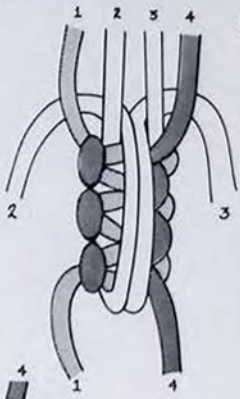
Tie one Square Knot. Drop down 2 inches and tie a second Square Knot. Hold onto filler cords and slide the second Square Knot up to or toward the first Square Knot. The space left between the two Square Knots determines the size and shape of the picot. NOTE: A smaller picot should be made with soft material. The more body your material has, the larger the picot may be. A bead may be put on the filler cords before the second Square Knot is tied for a decorative effect. Small beads can be put on two picot loops around a larger bead, for the effect of a flower.





SQUARE KNOT BUTTON

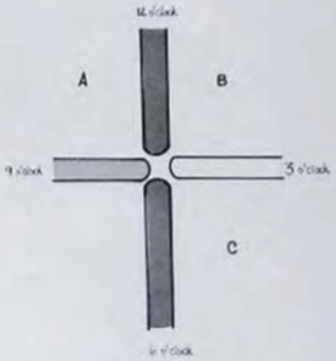
Leave a small (½" to 1") space from last knot tied on hanger. Tie a sinnet of 3 to 6 Square Knots. Let the two knotting cords drop away and, holding the two filler cords with one hand, open up the two filler cords at top of sinnet; put the two filler ends down through the opening. Pull until button forms. Bring the two dangling knotting cords around sides of button and pull snug. Tie one Square Knot at bottom to secure button. NOTE: The more Square Knots made in the sinnet, the larger the button.

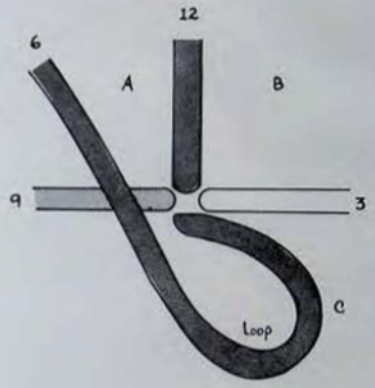


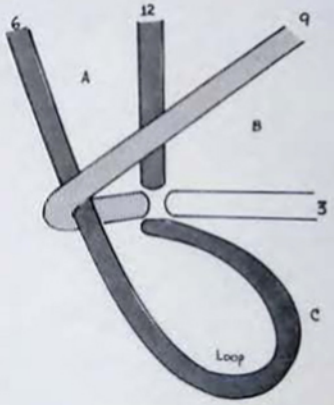
Knot Guide

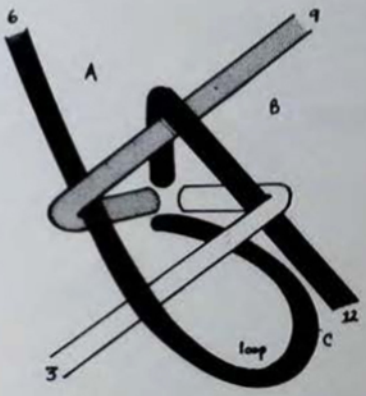
LANYARD KNOT

Put hanger upside down between your knees. Divide cords into 4 equal groups. Imagine numbers on a clock. Position one group at 12 o'clock, one group at 3 o'clock, one group at 6 o'clock and one group at 9 o'clock. It is most important to keep cords straight at all times. With left hand, hold the 6 o'clock cord(s). Make a loop keeping your hand on the loop. Put cord(s) over 9 o'colck cord(s) (into dagram space A). Put 9 o'clock cord(s) over 12 o'clock cord(s) (into diagram space B). Put 12 o'clock cord(s) over 3 o'clock cord(s) (into diagram space C). The last cord(s) -- 3 o'clock -- goes over the 12 o'clock cord(s) and through the loop you are holding with your left hand.



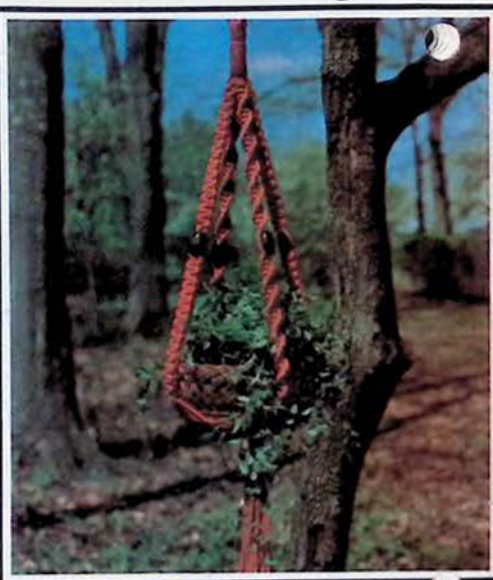






Elegance in White

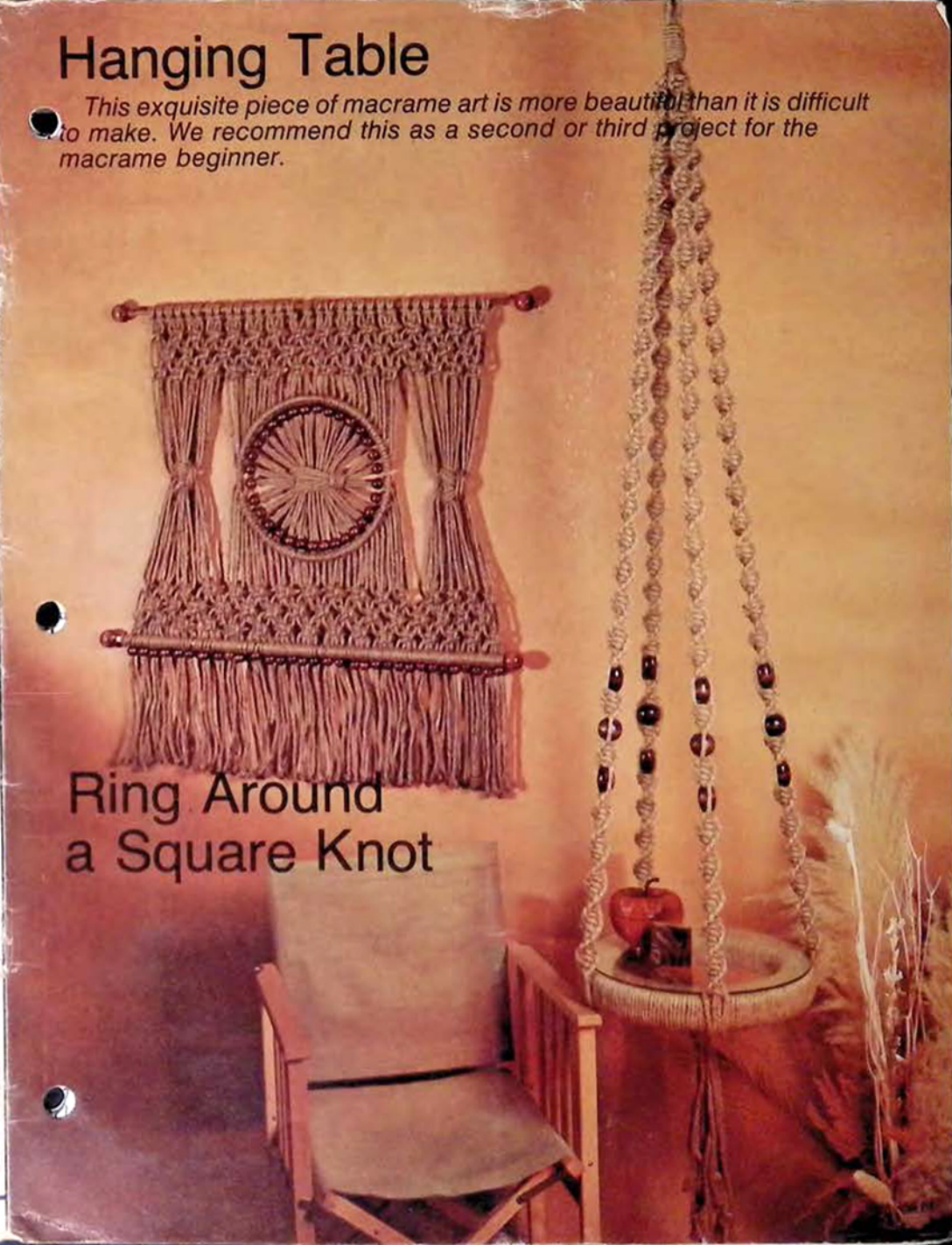
Cotton Delight



Twice as Nice

Hanging Table

This exquisite piece of macrame art is more beautiful than it is difficult to make. We recommend this as a second or third project for the macrame beginner.



Ring Around a Square Knot

First Macrame Project

Pictured on page 4

A Sampler for Beginners

Approx. finished length: 14"

In barely one hour, even the macrame beginner will learn five basic knots: Lark's Head, Double Half Hitch, Half Square Knot, Square Knot and Alternation Square knot. In addition, you will reverse cords in two places — a technique you will need to save on materials.

Materials

24 yds. 4 ply/72 natural jute (or equivalent thickness of another material).
1, 12" (at least) tree branch, driftwood, grapevine or dowel rod.
14, 20mm round wood macrame beads.

Preparation

Cut 12 cords, each 2 yds. long.

Directions

1. Fold each 2-yd. cord in half and mount on your piece of wood or dowel rod with a Lark's Head knot (see Knot Guide).
2. You have a total of 24 working cords below the Lark's Head knots. Number cords 1-24.
3. With cords 1-4, tie 10 Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide).
4. Now change knotting cords to filler cords (see reversing cords in Techniques section), and slide a bead up the new filler cords. With the same 4 cords, tie 10 more Half Squre Knots.
5. With cords 21-24, repeat steps 3 and 4.
6. Using cord 5 and two T-pins, pin this cord to board horizontally, immediately below Lark's Heads, as a knot bearing cord. Draw knot bearer straight and tight to the right over the 15 cords and just below the Lark's Heads. To the right of the last Lark's Head, pin cord down to board. HINT: A loose Overhand Knot (see Knot Guide) here, in the knot bearer, to put the pin through, holds the cord tighter and straighter. The knot bearing cord must be kept straight and tight.
7. Using cords 1-20, tie one row of Double Half Hitch knots (see Knot Guide), working from left to right. If you used an Overhand Knot at the end of the knot bearer, remove T-pin and untie Overhand Knot and let cord drop straight down with other cords.
8. With cords 5-8, tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide), below Double Half Hitches. Now tie another Square Knot with cords 9-12, cords 13-16, and cords 17-20.
9. Next, drop off the first 2 cords and, with the next 4 cords, tie an alternating Square Knot (see Knot Guide). With the next 2 groups of 4 cords, tie an alternating Square Knot with each group. Two cords will be left over on the right side, also.
10. Drop the first 4 cords and tie an alternating Square Knot with each of the next 2 groups of 4 cords each. This will leave 4 cords on the right side, also.
11. Drop off the first 6 cords and tie one center alternating Square Knot with the next group of 4 cords. Six cords will be left on the right side.
12. Below the Square Knot, tie a row of 2 alternation Square Knots by picking up 2 cords on each side of these middle 4 cords.
13. Then,immediately below these 2 Square Knots,tie a row of 3 alternating Square Knots by picking up 2 more cords on each side.
14. Finally, tie a row of 4 alternating Square Knots by picking up the last cords on each side.
15. Pin the last free cord on the right (cord 16) over the other 15 cords, to the left and just below the last row of Square Knots. This is a horizontal knot bearer.
16. Working from *right* to *left*, tie a row of Double Half Hitches. Now remove T-pin and untie Overhand Knot (if used), letting knot bearing cord drop down.
17. Now simply slide one bead up each group of 2 cords.

Mistletoe Ring

A simple, fast, easy-to-make holiday decoration to compliment any wall, tree or doorway.

Pictured on page 9

Approximate finished length: 14" with tassel

Materials

8 yds. rug filler,colored 5 ply/48 jute or equivalent size cord
1, 6" metal or wood ring, or hoop
1 bunch of mistletoe, Christmas ornament or other decoration
1½" metal ring

Preparation

1. Cut 2 cords, each 3 yds. long.
2. Cut 6 cords, each 1 foot long.

Directions

1. Mount the two 3-yd. cords on the 1½" ring with Lark's Head knots(see Knot Guide). Now you have 4 working cords coming off the 1½" ring.
2. Place 6" ring below the Lark's Head knots. With 2 of the cords, tie about 45 Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide) around half of the ring, using the 6" ring in place of filler cords.
3. Starting at the top, with the other 2 cords, tie about 45 Half Square Knots around the other half of the ring. The sinnets of Half Square Knots should meet at the bottom. Allow cord ends to hang down at bottom.
4. Fold the six 1-ft. cords in half and, using the cord ends from covered ring, simply tie these to the bottom center of ring, forming a tassel.
5. Tie mistletoe or other decoration at top center of the ring, so that it hangs down into the ring.

Baubles 'N Beads Christmas Tree

Easy to make, but certain to lead to more work for you, because you'll be the envy of all your friends If you choose to sell them, this Christmas may pay for itself.

Pictured on page 9

Approximate finished length: 31"

Materials

41 yds. 7-ply 8mm jute
30, 20mm round red wood beads
1 dowel rod, 5/16" diameter X 17" long
1 velvet ribbon bow and decoration
1, 1½" ring

Preparation

1. Cut 14 cords, 2½ yds. each.
2. Cut 2 cords 3 yds. each.

Directions

1. Mount 2 of the 2½-yd. cords on the 1½" ring with Lark's Head knots (see Knot Guide).
2. Skip down 17 inches and mount these cords near ends of dowel with Double Half Hitch knots (see Knot Guide).
3. Fold each of the two 3-yd. cords in half and mount one on each of the outside cords of steps 1 and 2, with Lark's Heads, close to top. Double Half Hitch these mounted cords to the inside cords of steps 1 and 2.
4. Slide one bead on the 2 center cords nearest the top and, with the middle 4 cords, tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide) right below bead.
5. Mount two 2½-yd. cords, one on each outside cord, with Lark's Heads, about one inch from previous Lark's Head (step 3), and Double Half Hitch these to the inside cords as you did in step 3.
6. Divide cords into 2 groups, 4 cords in each group. The 2 center cords of each group are filler cords. Slide one bead up the 2 filler cords of each group and tie one Square Knot below each bead.
7. Mount 2 more cords on the outside side-cords, as before, and Double Half Hitch these to the inside side-cords (as before).
8. Divide cords into 3 groups, 4 cords in each group, and with 3 beads, repeat as in step 6.
9. Add 2 more cords as in step 7.
10. Divide cords into 4 groups, 4 cords to each group, and with 4 beads, repeat as in step 6.
11. Drop down about 1½ inches and tie one row of 4 Square Knots.
12. Add 2 more cords as in step 7. Divide cords into 5 groups of 4 cords each and, with 5 beads, repeat as in step 6.
13. Add 2 more cords as in step 7; divide cords into 6 groups and repeat as in step 6. Repeat this step one more time, using 7 beads the last time.
14. Double Half Hitch all cords to the dowel rod, and place one bead on each end of dowel rod.
15. Gather all cords together with a ribbon bow about 4 inches below the dowel rod. Insert decoration in bow, if desired.

Elegance in White

Soft, flowing, elegant and white–this beautiful hanger adds formal grace to any room. It's a nice project for both beginner and expert because its sheer beauty makes it look more difficult than it is.

Pictured on page 12

Approximate finished length: 4'2" plus 18" tassel

Materials

122 yds. 4-ply white polyester welt cord
1, 2¼" soldered metal ring
1, 12" diameter (or larger) pot

Preparation

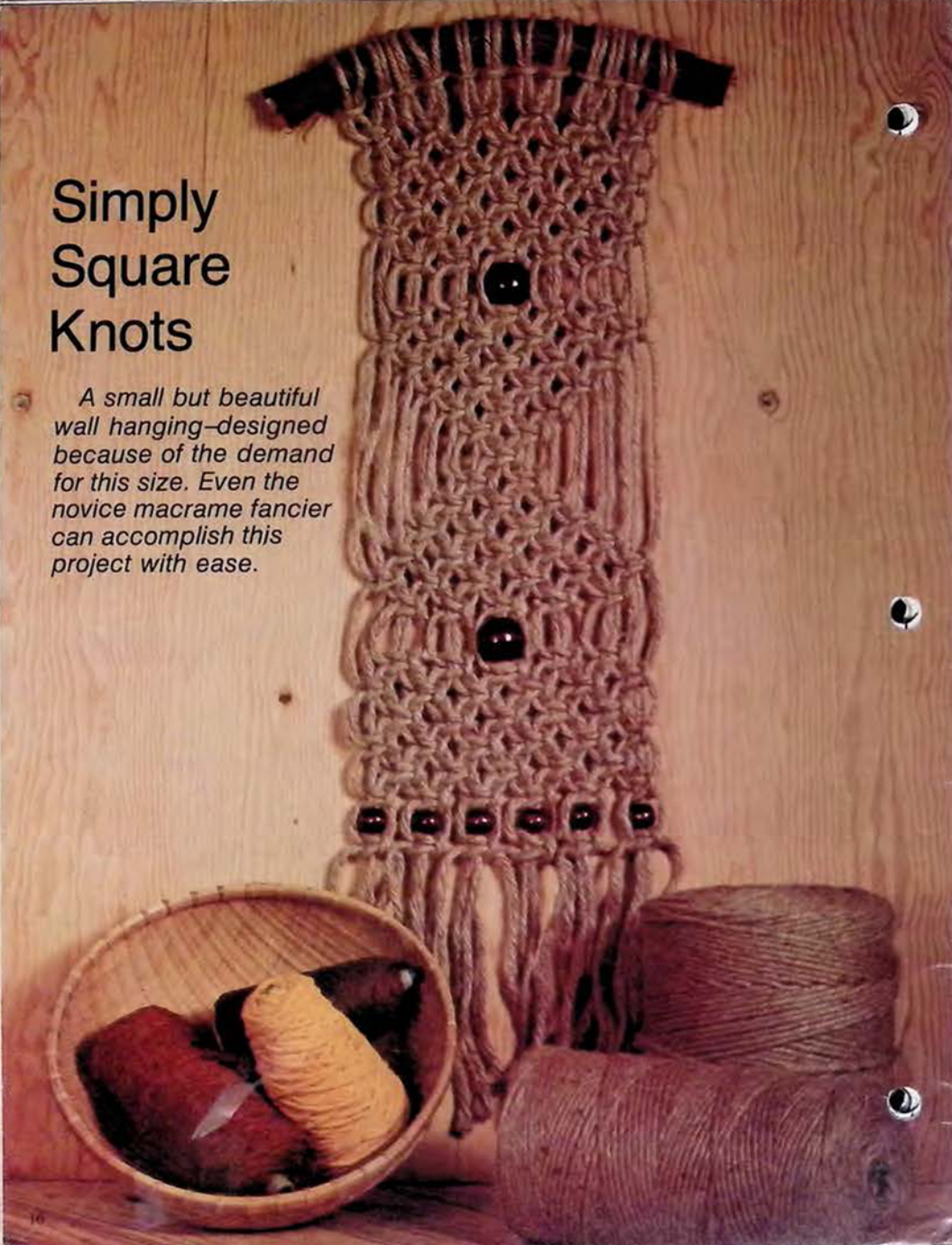
1. Cut 12 cords, each 10 yds. long.
2. Cut 2 cords, each 1 yd. long.

Directions

1. Fold all 12 cords in half through the ring.
2. Bring all cords together and wrap with a gathering cord, 1 inch below ring, using a 1-yd. cord (see Techniques section).
3. Divide cords into 3 groups of 8 cords each.
4. Using 4 filler cords and 4 knotting cords (2 knotters on each side), tie 50 Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide).
5. Repeat step 4 with other 2 groups of 8 cords each, taking sure each group is about the same length after this step. Add or subtract Half Square Knots, if necessary.
6. With one group of 8 cords, divide into 2 groups of 4 cords each. Using 2 filler and 2 knotting cords, tie 50 Half Square Knots with each group of 4 cords.
7. Repeat step 6 with the 2 other groups of cords remaining.
8. Take 2 cords each from adjacent sinnets, skip down 4 inches, and tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide).
9. Repeat step 8 with other sinnets.
10. Take 2 cords from one Square Knot and 2 cords from an adjacent Square Knot, skip down 4 inches, and tie one Square Knot.
11. Repeat step 10 with other cords.
12. Skip down 5 inches, bring all cords together, and wrap with a gathering cord, using the remaining 1-yd. cord.
13. Cut off tassel to desired length.

Simply Square Knots

A small but beautiful wall hanging–designed because of the demand for this size. Even the novice macrame fancier can accomplish this project with ease.



Cotton Delight

This small, easy-to-make plant hanger makes a good first project for a beginner, and a desirable size hanger for limited space.

Pictured on page 12

Approximate finished length: 26" plus tassel

Materials
34 yds. #72 cotton seine or soft cotton cord
1, 1½" ring
4 wood beads
1, 6"-8" pot

Preparation
1. Cut 8 cords, each 4 yds. long.
2. Cut 2 cords, each 1 yd. long.

Directions
1. Fold all 8 cords in half through the ring.
2. Wrap all cords together with a 1-yd. gathering cord about 1 inch below the ring (see Techniques section).
3. Divide all cords into 4 croups of 4 cords each.
4. With one group of 4 cords, tie a sinnet of 15 Square Knots (see Knot Guide).
5. Reverse those cords which are now knotting cords to filler cords, and vice versa (see Techniques section). Slide a bead up the new filler cords. Your old filler cords are now knotting cords. Place these around the outside of the bead. Continue by tying another sinnet of 15 Square Knots.
6. With your next group of 4 cords, tie a sinnet of 30 Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide). Reverse cords as in step 5 and slide a bead up your new filler cords. Tie another sinnet of 30 Half Square Knots.
7. Repeat steps 4 and 5 with your next group of 4 cords.
8. Repeat step 6 with your last group of 4 cords. Patterns should by opposite each other.
9. To make cradle, skip down 2 inches and take 2 cords from one group and 2 cords from an adjacent group and tie one Square Knot with these 4 cords. Repeat with remaining cords.
10. Skip down 2 inches more, take 2 cords from one Square Knot and 2 cords from an adjacent Square Knot, and tie one Square Knot with these 4 cords. Repeat with remaining cords.
11. Skip down 2 inches and bring all cords together and wrap with a 1-yd. gathering cord.
12. Trim tassel to desired length.

Twice as Nice

A good early project. Designed for two pots, this simple, attractive plant hanger is also nice for just one larger pot. Shown in two colors, it is equally beautiful in just one color or natural jute.

Pictured on page 12

Approximate finished length: 4' plus 12" tassel

Materials
34 yds. 5-ply, 5mm bleached jute
35 yds. 7-ply, 8mm rust jute
1, 2" metal ring
4, 38mm natural finished round wood beads
4, 38mm orange round wood beads
1, 8" pot (approximate size)
1, 10" pot (approximate size)

Preparation
1. Cut 4 bleached jute cords, each 8 yds. long.
2. Cut 4 rust jute cords, each 8 yds. long.
3. Cut 2 bleached jute cords, each 1 yd. long.
4. Cut 2 rust jute cords, each 54 inches (1 yd. 18") long

Directions
1. Lay all eight 8-yd. cords flat on knotting board and mark center of the 8 cords by placing a T-pin to one side of all these cords at their center.
2. You are now ready to make a Square Knot Loop with the two 54" cords. (See Techniques section for detailed information on the Square Knot Loop.)
3. After centering the 2" ring on the Square Knot loop, wrap with a 1-yd. cord (a gathering knot) immediately below the last knots of the Square Knot loop (see Techniques section).
4. Divide all 16 cords into 4 groups so there are 2 rust filler cords and 2 bleached knotting cords.
5. With one group of 4 cords, tie 8 inches of Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide). Slide a bead up the filler cords, and tie another 8 inches of Half Square Knots. Repeat this step with each group (divided in step 4).
6. Now take 2 cords from one group and 2 cords from and adjacent group; skip down 2 inches. CAUTION: Do not skip down more than 2 inches or the top pot will fall through.
7. The color of your knotting cords is now rust and the filler cords are bleached.
8. By taking the 2 cords from each group in step 6, the cords are reversed. This saves material besides changing colors. With each of your new groups, tie 9 Square Knots (see Knot Guide).
9. Slide a bead up the filler cords and tie 9 more Square Knots with each group.
10. To make the cradle and gathering knot, see Techniques section.
11. Cut tassel to desired length.

Hanging Table

Pictured on page 13

Approximate finished length: 6' plus tassel

Materials

168 yds. 3 ply/120, 4 ply/120, 5 ply/72, or 6 ply/72 natural jute, or equivalent size (thickness) of synthetic material
1, 3" gold or antique brass ring
8, 44mm × 28mm wood barrel beads
4, 40mm round wood beads
1, 16" diameter styrofoam ring (available at craft shops or florists)
1 16" diameter X ¼" thick glass, cut round
Craft or tacky glue

Preparation

1. Cut 4 cords, each 18 yds. long, for knotting cords.
2. Cut 4 cords, each 11 yds. long, for filler cords.
3. Cut 2 cords, each 1 yd. long.
4. 50 additional yards will be needed to wrap the styrofoam ring.

Other than wrapping the styrofoam ring, your most difficult task in this project—cutting all the cords—is now complete. In just two evenings you can probably complete this versatile and beautiful hanging table.

Directions

1. Put your four 11-yd. filler cords through the 3" ring and center cords on the ring.
2. Now, center your four 18-yd. cords on the ring, 2 on each side of the 4 filler cords already centered on the ring.
3. With one of your 1-yd. cords, tie a 2" wrapping (gathering knot — see Techniques section), just below the ring around all of the cords.
4. For ease of working, butterfly (see Techniques section) each of the 8 longer (knotting) cords. Divide shorter (filler) cords into groups of 2 and slide on the 3 beads in the order they will be used (see steps 6-8). Then, butterfly each group of 2 filler cords. You should now have 4 groups of filler cords.
5. With one of these groups and 2 knotting cords, tie 100 Half Square Knots(see Knot Guide).
6. Slide the first large barrel bead up the 2 filler cords into place, and tie 5 more Half Square Knots below bead.
7. Now slide the 40mm round wood bead up the filler cords and tie 5 more Half Square Knots below bead.
8. Next, slide the last large barrel bead up the filler cords and tie approximately 36 more Half Square Knots (depending on desired finished length).
9. Repeat steps 5,6,7 and 8 for the other 3 groups of 4 cords each. CAUTION: Be certain to use the 18-yd. cords for the knotting cords. Check to be sure bead placement is the same as on the first sinnet.
10. With each group of 4 cords, skip down 7 inches and tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide). Skip an additional 3 inches with each group of 4 cords, bring all cords together, and wrap with your remaining 1-yd. cord used as a gathering cord.
11. To wrap the 16" styrofoam ring, you will need 50 yards of materials. When starting to wrap the ring, pin cord down on ring with a t-pin. As you wrap, push cords close together on inside of ring about every inch. When wrapped, remove pin and glue beginning and end of cord to ring.
12. After you've placed the ring in the hanger and the glass on top of the ring, relax and enjoy your new macrame creation!

Ring Around a Square Knot

In answer to the demand for attractive, uncomplicated wall hangings, this pattern became a reality. The beautiful wood beads compliment the beauty and simplicity of this project.

Pictured on page 13

Approximate finished size: 36"wide = 40" long

Materials

176 yds. 5 ply/72 or 3 ply/120 natural jute, or equivalent size of other cord
2, 36" long, × ¾" diameter dowel rods
1, 13" metal ring
64, 25mm round wood beads
4, 40mm round wood beads

Preparation

Cut 32 cords, each 5½ yds. long.

Directions

1. Fold each cord in half and mount on dowel rod with Lark's Head knots (see Knot Guide).
2. Divide cords into groups of 4 cords each, and tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide) with each group, about one inch below dowel rod.
3. Moving one inch below last knots, drop the first 2 and last 2 cords and tie one row of alternating Square Knots (see Knot Guide).
4. Skip down one inch more and tie another complete row of alternating Square Knots (using all working cords).
5. Position metal ring on top of center cords, with top of ring 2 inches below last row of Knots.
6. Working in both directions from the center, Double Half Hitch (see Knot Guide) cords onto top half of ring. This should take about 32 cords. If top half is not covered, continue by adding one cord from each side.

Ring Around a Square Knot

7. Slide one 25mm bead on each pair of cords around side of ring (those Double Half Hitched in last step).
8. Using 4 cords on each side as knotting cords and the rest of cords in between these as filler cords, tie one large Square Knot in center of ring. (The groups of cords on either side of hanging that have not been and will not be used on ring are not included in this Square Knot.)
9. Divide cords in middle "ring" section into pairs and slide one 25mm bead onto each pair.
10. From bottom center of ring, with all cords underneath ring, Double Half Hitch cords to bottom half of ring, working from center in both directions. Ring should now be covered completely.
11. With groups of cords on each side, not used on ring, skip down about 8 inches from last row of Square Knots (tied in step 4). Using the 4 outside cords of the group (2 cords on each side of the group) as knotting cords, tie one Square Knot on each side of the hanging. These knots should be on the level of the knot in center of ring.
12. Skip down 2 inches below bottom center of ring and tie one row of Square Knots with groups of 4 cords per knot, working from left to right all across hanging.
13. One inch below, drop off the first 2 and last 2 cords and tie a row of alternating Square Knots.
14. One more inch below, tie another row of alternating Square Knots, using all working cords.
15. Position dowel rod on top of cords one inch below last row of Square Knots and Double Half Hitch all cords to rod. (Rod must be kept straight.)
16. Slide one bead up each pair of cords to dowel rod and trim fringe.
17. Place one 40mm bead on each end of rods. (Dowel rod ends may need to be sanded first, so that beads will fit.)

Helpful Hint: If you are using an acrylic or polypropylene cord which the strands tend to unravel easily – this problem can be remedied. Light a match and touch it to the cord end – just enough to singe the strands and melt them together. CAUTION: Do not allow the flame to stay near the cord for very long as some fibers will quickly burst into flame. Practice the utmost caution. Children should not attempt this.

Simply Square Knots

Pictured on page 16

Approximate finished size: 11" wide = 36" long

Materials

60 yds. 4 ply/72 or 5 ply/72 natural jute
1. 14"-18" piece of Cholla Cactus Wood, driftwood or grapevine
2. 40mm round wood beads
6. 25mm round wood beads

Preparation

Cut 12 cords, each 5 yds. long.

Directions

1. Mount each of the 5-yd. cords on chosen wood with Lark's Head Knots (see Knot Guide). Space approximately ½ inch apart on wood.
2. Skip down approximately one inch, and tie one row of Square Knots (see Knot Guide) using 2 knotting cords and 2 filler cords for each knot.
3. Tie a row of alternating Square Knots (see Knot Guide) by dropping the first 2 cords on the left, and the last 2 cords on the right.
4. Tie 4 more rows of alternating Square Knots.
5. Slide one large 40mm bead onto the center cords (cords 12 and 13).
6. Tie a row of alternating Square Knots, starting with cords 3-6. Tie 2 more rows of alternating Square Knots.
7. Drop 4 cords on the left and 4 cords on the right, and tie a row of 4 alternating Square Knots.
8. Drop 2 more cords on both the left and right sides (6 cords on each side) and tie a row of 3 alternating Square Knots.
9. Drop 2 more cords on the left and 2 more cords on the right (8 cords on each side), and tie a row of 2 alternating Square Knots.
10. Finally, with the center 4 cords, tie one alternating Square Knot.
11. Reserse the above procedure to tie rows of 2, then 3, then 4, then 5 and then 6 Square Knots, in that order. For each row, 2 working cords will be added on each side.
12. Follow this with one row of alternating Square Knots.
13. Slide the other 40mm bead up the 2 center cords.
14. Tie 6 rows of alternating Square Knots, starting the first of these rows with cords 3-6.
15. Slide one 25mm bead up the filler cords of each group of 4 cords. Follow this with one complete row of Square Knots, and cut fringe to desired length.

Macrame Necklace

Fashionable and attractive macrame necklaces fit right in with today's casual dress–for men and women or boys and girls. Fun, fast, and easy to make, for either the novice or experienced macrame enthusiast. Macrame jewelry can be done anywhere–while traveling, recovering from an illness, or just relaxing at home. In addition, it provides the most opportunity for creativity in design. From start to finish, a project can be completed in less than an hour and a half.

Materials

14 ft. (4&⅔ yds.) waxed cotton, waxed linen or waxed nylon cord
1 Hook and eye clasp or screw-type barrel clasp
3, 5, or 7 beads (see Comments)

Preparation

1. Cut 2 cords, each 6 ft. long (knotting cords).
2. Cut 1 cord, 2 ft. long (filler cord).

Comments

Before you begin your macrame necklace, you must select the beads to be used (if you are using beads). Be careful not to get beads with holes that are too large. Otherwise, if you pull all 3 cords through the beads, they will not stay in place. Usually only the filler cord goes through the bead. This pattern differs from many others in two ways. First, we use only 3 cords, 2 for knotting and 1 for filler. In this way, finer beads with smaller holes can be used. The second difference is that we start in the center of the necklace, as indicated in the directions that follow.

Directions

1 Fold the 2 knotting cords and the one filler cord in half, and tie the 3 cords together near the center, with a loose Overhand Knot (see Knot Guide).

2 With a T-pin, pin cords to knotting board through the Overhand Knot.

3. Place half of the 3 cords over the edge of the board. With the other half, begin by placing your center bead on the filler cord (or on all 3 cords, if desired and possible).

4. You must decide if you wish to start with Square Knots (see Knot Guide) or Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide). If you start with Square Knots, tie about 5 before putting on the second bead. If you use Half Square Knots, tie about 15 to 20 before the second bead. NOTE: You must keep your filler cord pulled down tight or pinned down. Otherwise, it will bunch up in your knots. Also, you will probably find it necessary to pull your knots tighter than in plant hangers and other larger projects.

5. After the second bead is put on, you may want to change to Half Square Knots, or vice versa.

6. After about 6 inches of work, turn necklace around and remove the Overhand Knot. Repeat same pattern as used for the other side. Finish each end to desired length, allowing for the length of the clasp.

7. To attach screw type barrel clasp, insert filler cord through end loop and tie a Square Knot. Glue the knot and trim excess cord. If using hook and eye type clasp made with hole for leather, insert all 3 cords through clasp on each end and crimp with pliers.

Little Bit

Approximate finished length: 18"

Materials

16&⅔ yds. 4 ply/48, 4 ply/72, or 6 ply/28 jute
2, 1&1/8" barrel beads (eyes)
1, 6" (approximately) stick, grapevine or cactus wood

Preparation

1. Cut 6 cords, 8 ft. long.
2. Cut 1 cord, 8 inches long.
3. Cut 1 cord, 16 inches long.

Directions

1. With the 8" cord, tie and Overhand Knot (see Knot Guide) one inch from each end.
2. Fold the 8" cord in half and pin to board in a V-shape.
3. Lark's Head (see Knot Guide) three 8-ft. cords onto each side of V.
4. Using outside cords as knot bearing cords, T-pin each to center below V.
5. With the 5 remaining cords on each side, Double Half Hitch(see Knot Guide) to knot bearing cords, down to center.
6. Repeat step 4 using new outside cords as knot bearers.
7. With the 4 center cords, make a Square Knot button consisting of 5 Square Knots (see Knot Guide). Start Square Knots for button immediately below Double Half Hitches.
8. Place one bead for each eye on first cord on each side of the Square Knot button.
9. T-pin the 2 center cords as knot bearing cords diagonally to each side, on top of other cords (↙ and ↘). Working from center to outsides, Double Half Hitch all cords to knot bearers. NOTE: Be certain to arc the cords outside of eyes, as shown in the photo.
10. Repeat, tying 4 more rows of Double Half Hitches, as on step 9. Include knot bearer from previous row as a knotting cord on each new row. Each row should slant more downward.
11. Using the 6 center cords as filler cords and the next cord out on each side (cords 3 and 10) as knotting cords, tie one Square Knot.
12. With remaining 2 cords on each side, Double Half Hitch to branch, forming owl's toes.
13. Bring all cords together behind branch and, with the 16" cord, tie a gathering knot (wrapping — see Techniques section).
14. Trim fringe and brush out with a soft baby brush, if desired.

Mister Bushy Eyes

Little Bit

Although small, "Little Bit" does take a few hours of work and some macrame experience. For the owl fancier, he's sheer delight!

Macrame Necklace

Mister Bushy Eyes

Definitely not a first, second or third project, this unusually attractive owl is a sure hit with any owl fancier. The heavily bushed eyes and tail make him a real stand-out among macrame owls.

Pictured on page 21

Approximate finished length: 36"

Materials
85 yds. 4 ply/72 or 5 ply/65 natural jute
12 yds. more for hanger (optional)
2, 2½" wood rings
2, 40mm round wood beads
1, 12" (approximately) piece of driftwood, grapevine or cactus wood
1, 18" (approximately) piece of driftwood, grapevine or cactus wood

Preparation
1. Cut 12 cords, each 7 yds. long.
2. Cut 1 cord, 1 yd. long.

Directions
1. Mount all 12 cords on longest branch with Lark's Head Knots (see Knot Guide).
2. Skip down about 1 inch, divide cords into groups of 4 cords each, and tie one Square Knot (see Knot Guide) with each group.
3. Next tie rows of diminishing alternating Square Knots (see Knot Guide) consisting of 5, then 4, then 3, then 2, and then 1 Square Knot.
4. Skip down 1 inch below center Square Knot and, using center 4 cords, tie a Square Knot button (see Knot Guide) for the nose.
5. Using cords 1-4 and cords 21-24, tie a sinnet of 25 Half Square Knots (see Knot Guide) with each group.
6. Eyes: Center the wood rings on top of cords, with top of rings about ¾ inch below Square Knots, on cords 8 and 17. Attach cords 8 and 17 to top of wood rings with a Double Half Hitch(see Knot Guide).
7. Slide a bead on cord 8 and on cord 17 and tie one Double Half Hitch to the bottom of each ring with these same cords.
8. Pin each of the 2 filler cords from the Square Knot button, one to each side at a slight downward angle just below rings and on top of other cords.
9. Using these as knot bearers and working from the center outwards in both directions, tie Double Half Hitches with all other cords.
10. With cords 11-14 (the center 4 cords), tie one Square Knot about one inch below the Square Knot button. With cords 9-16, divide into 2 groups of 4 cords each, and tie one Square Knot with each group.
11. Repeat pattern in step 10 four more times to yield a total of 10 rows of alternating Square Knots.
12. With cords 1-4, use the shortest cords as filler cords and the longest cords as knotting cords, and tie a sinnet of about 50 Half Square Knots.
13. Repeat step 12 with cords 5-8, 17-20, and 21-24.
14. Using one cord from each group of 4 cords, Double Half Hitch around bottom piece of wood.
15. Gather all remaining cords together behind wood. With the 1-yd. cord, tie a wrap (see Techniques section) about one inch below the wood. Trim tail length to about 1 foot. Save the cords cut off.
16. Eye fringe: For each eye, using material cut from the tail, cut 9 cords, each 1 ft. long. With Lark's Head knots, attach these to outside half of ring. Repeat on other ring.
17. For inside half of ring, cut 9 cords, each 10 inches long and mount as in step 16. Repeat on other ring.
18. For eye and tail fringe, separate plies of jute on each cord. Then using a very soft brush, like a baby hair brush, gentle tease, fluff and trim. CAUTION: Brush must be very soft or cord will tear apart.

HANGING CORD FOR OWL

Materials
12 yds. 4/72 or 5/65 natural jute

Preparation
Cut 2 cords, 6 yds. each.

Directions
1. Fold each cord in half and Lark's Head to one end of branch.
2. Tie 13 inches of Half Square Knots, reverse cords (change knotters to fillers and vice versa — see Techniques section) and continue with 13 more inches of Half Square Knots.
3. Wrap all 4 cords around opposite end of branch, one time, and tie one Square Knot on back side. Glue knot and trim excess cord.

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